

History of the Sixth



WING COMMANDERS

Brief History of the 6th: The 6th Air Mobility Wing is the direct descendant of the 6th Bombardment Wing, which activated at [Walker Air Force Base, New Mexico](#) in 1951. There have been many changes to the wing's designation and location since then, which are reflected below.

A gap in the history of the 6th between 1951 and 1948 separates the current wing from its namesake predecessor, the 6th Bombardment Group, which served in the Pacific during World War II. The Air Force inactivated the old 6th during the mass demobilization following the war on Okinawa in October, 1948.

Prior to that, the 6th Bombardment Group traced its roots back to the 3rd Observation Group, which was part of the fledgling aviation section of the U.S. Army following the First World War. The 3rd Observation Group was established (at least on paper) on 30 September 1919 at France Field, [Panama Canal Zone](#).

Today, the 6th Air Mobility Wing is the host wing at MacDill Air Force Base, [Florida](#).



*Colonel Scott V. DeThomas
is the current commander of
the 6th Air Mobility Wing.*

WALKER AIR FORCE BASE

New Mexico



1951-1967

6th Bombardment Wing, Medium (2 Jan 1951 – 15 Jun 1952):

Colonel Thomas S. Jeffery, Jr

2 Jan 1951 – 15 Jan 1951

6th Bombardment Wing, Heavy (16 Jun 1952 – 30 Apr 1962):

Colonel William K. Martin

15 Jan 1951 – 20 May 1955

Colonel Glen W. Martin

20 May 1955 – 21 Sep 1956

Colonel Everett W. Best

21 Sep 1956 – 3 Jun 1957

Colonel Daniel V. MacDonald

3 Jun 1957 – 15 Aug 1957

Lieutenant Colonel Lewis R. Riley

15 Aug 1957 – 16 Sep 1957

Colonel Edwin C. Evans

16 Sep 1957 – 23 Sep 1957

Colonel Everett W. Best

23 Sep 1957 – 23 Feb 1960

Colonel Donald C. Hillman

23 Feb 1960 – 18 Jul 1962

6th Strategic Aerospace Wing (1 May 1962 – 24 Mar 1967):

Colonel Ernest C. Eddy

18 Jul 1962 – 15 Jul 1963

Colonel Floyd H. Haywood, Jr

15 Jul 1963 – 15 Apr 1963

Colonel Richard M. Hoban

15 Apr 1965 – 15 Jun 1965

Colonel Lester F. Miller

15 Jun 1965 – 9 Jul 1966

Colonel George P. Cole

9 Jul 1966 – 2 Sep 1966

Colonel Roland H. Worrell, Jr

2 Sep 1966 – 25 Mar 1967

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE

Alaska



1967-1992



6th Strategic Wing (25 Mar 1967 – 31 Mar 1988):

Colonel Martin E. Plocher	25 Mar 1967 – 11 Jul 1967
Colonel Ray M. Watkins	11 Jul 1967 – 4 Jun 1969
Colonel Leslie W. Brockwell	4 Jun 1969 – 23 Jun 1970
Colonel Melford W. Lewis	23 Jun 1970 – 5 Jun 1972
Colonel Doyle E. Reynolds	5 Jun 1972 – 6 Dec 1973
Colonel Joe L. Church	6 Dec 1973 – 11 Jul 1974
Colonel William J. Campbell	11 Jul 1974 – 7 Oct 1975
Colonel Donald M. Griffin	7 Oct 1975 – 28 May 1976
Colonel Jimmy S. Lassetter	28 May 1976 – 4 Oct 1977
Colonel John A. Dale	4 Oct 1977 – 26 Nov 1979
Colonel William R. Perry	26 Nov 1979 – 20 Jul 1981
Colonel Benjamin F. Schneider, Jr	20 Jul 1981 – 29 Jul 1983
Colonel Mark J. Heller	29 Jul 1983 – 3 Oct 1984
Colonel James W. Morrow, Jr	3 Oct 1984 – 14 Jul 1986
Colonel Thomas W. Young	14 Jul 1986 – 18 Nov 1987

6th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing (1 Apr 1988 – 31 Aug 1992):

Colonel James L. Holmes, Jr	18 Nov 1987 – 10 Mar 1989
Colonel George R. Warner	10 Mar 1989 – 18 Jun 1990
Colonel William G. Manire, Jr	18 Jun 1990 – 13 Jun 1991
Colonel James E. Andrews	13 Jun 1991 – 1 Sep 1992



MacDILL AIR FORCE BASE

Florida



1994-Present

6th – Inactivated (1 Sept 1992-21 Dec 1993)

6th Air Base Wing (4 Jan 1994 – 30 Sept 1996):

Colonel Charles T. Ohlinger III

4 Jan 1994 – 28 Jun 1996

6th Air Refueling Wing (1 Oct 1996—31 Dec 2000):

Brigadier General John D. Becker

Brigadier General James N. Soligan

Brigadier General Arthur F. Diehl III

28 Jun 1996 – 21 Nov 1997

21 Nov 1997 – 30 Jun 1999

30 Jun 1999 – 1 Aug 2001

6th Air Mobility Wing (1 Jan 2001—Present):

Brigadier General Wayne W. Hodges

Brigadier General David M. Snyder

Colonel Margaret H. Woodward

Colonel Robert D. Thomas

Colonel Lawrence M. Martin, Jr.

Colonel Lenny J. Richoux

Colonel Scott V. DeThomas

1 August 2001 – 10 Jan 2003

10 Jan 2003 – 3 Feb 2005

3 Feb 2005 – 26 Mar 2007

26 Mar 2007 – 8 Sept 2008

8 Sept 2008 – 9 Jul 2010

9 Jul 2010 – 27 Jul 2012

27 Jul 2012 – Present